Review ot nuclear power programme

2481. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Russian scientist, Mr. Sakharov, is reported to have said that all nuclear reactors are inherently unsafe; and

(b) if so, whether our nuclear Power programme needs to be re.iewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRA-MON1YAN): (a) The reported statement of the Russian scientist Sakharov that all nuclear reactions are inherently unsafe is not understandable- There are several types of nuclear reactions, none of which is unsafe. If the reference is to nuclear "wctnrs". a well-desi?ned reactor, following correct operational procedure can be ojerated safely.

(b) The Pressurised Heavy Watc Reactors which are the mainstay of the Indian nuclei rower prnernm-mo offer certain intrinsic advantages with resorc(to vtfrty. somp of tries'-are inherently available w\ilr others are ipeciaTTy engineered safety system. Tin's is 'rflr-ffd in the satisfactory safety record of -wr nuclear reactors.

Equity fBflictptfWm Mw«?n XMMI IRF.L

24S"[1] 5HRT VAYALAR ,RAVT: Will ih- PR1MF MINISTER be pleated to state:

(a) wheth-r 0N C, <emmem of Ctnil h»< requeued far equity rnrtirpvirin r.f the Indian Rare Earths Umited flRELl W'th Kerala Metals and Minerals Limi- (KMML); and

(b) if sa, what steps Government have taken on the requejt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS I AND THE MINISTER OF STATE iN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALA-SUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal involves very 1 vrsje invcii-ments and hence participation of the Government, dire.tly ov through the Indian Rare Earths Ltd., is dependcat oft the availability of resources during the -Ninth Five Year Plan.

Sale of Light 'Water Reactors to India by Russia

2483. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Wll the PRIME MINISTER be plea-ed to state:

(a) whether Govei'.iment have taken 'aote o' the objection's raised by the USA in respect of sale of two Hr.ht water reactors for Kudankuhm Nuclear Power Plant in Tamil Nadu by Russia.

(b) what is the reaction of Rosbn authorities in re'Spect of the American objections to the sale of the said reac tors; and

fc) what is 'he present status of the *supply of the tarns by Russia?

THF M1NSTFR OF STATE IN TW MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GR.IFV\NCF.S A PENSIONS AND THB MINISTER OF STATE »N THE MIN-ISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. K. BALASUBRAMO have taken no'e of me lb near* i_n this re?ard. TV RnsHan authorities ha'e indicated cated that the isro-o^at to set UP *7 r* mnn MWc WFB tvne Licht Wal Rei-W Nuclar Power Station wonld not be aff-rted Vy *ihc* objection* raised b? the USA